

## II. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all previous listings.

1. (currently amended) A composition comprising fructo-oligoasaccharide (FOS) and galacto-oligoasaccharide (GOS), wherein said FOS contains up to about 95% by weight of oligofructose composed of chains with a degree of polymerization ranging from about 2 to about 7 and said GOS contains up to about 95% by weight of oligogalactose composed of chains with a degree of polymerization ranging from about 2 to about 7, wherein the FOS and GOS are capable of synergistically promoting the growth of *Lactobacilli*, such that their combined prebiotic property is greater than a sum of their individual prebiotic properties.
2. (cancelled)
3. (previously presented) The composition according to claim 1 wherein the weight ratio FOS:GOS is from about 0.2 to about 5.
4. (cancelled)
5. (previously presented) The composition according to claim 1 wherein the amount of the FOS and GOS blend is comprised between about 2.0 to about 55% by weight or by volume, based on the total weight or total volume of the composition.

6. (previously presented) The composition according to claim 1 wherein said composition provides at least 400kcal per serving.
7. (previously presented) The composition according to claim 1 which comprises more than about 1 en % protein, based on the total caloric content of the composition.
8. (previously presented) The composition according to claim 1 in which the composition is nutritionally complete.
9. (cancelled)
10. (previously presented) The composition according to claim 5 which comprises, per 100 ml: about 1.25 g FOS, about 1.25 g GOS, about 9 g proteins, about 22 g carbohydrates and about 9 g fats.
11. (previously presented) The composition according to claim 1 in which the composition is a ready-for-consumption composition.
- 12-17 (cancelled)
18. (withdrawn) A method of controlling gastrointestinal disorders in a human in need thereof comprising the step of administering a composition according to claim 1 to said human.

19. (withdrawn) A method of controlling intestinal flora in a human in need thereof comprising the step of administering a composition according to claim 1 to said human.

20. (withdrawn) A method of controlling inflammatory bowel disease in a human in need thereof comprising the step of administering a composition according to claim 1 to said human.

21. (withdrawn) A method of controlling infection by a pathogenic gut bacteria in a human in need thereof comprising the step of administering a composition according to claim 1 to said human.

22. (withdrawn) A method for stimulating growth of beneficial bacteria in a human in need thereof comprising the step of administering a composition according to claim 1 to said human.

23. (withdrawn) The method of claim 22, wherein said beneficial bacteria is selected from the group consisting of *bifidobacteria* and *lactobacilli*.

24. (withdrawn) A method of inhibiting growth of nonbeneficial bacteria in a human in need thereof comprising the step of administering a composition according to claim 1 to said human.

25. (withdrawn) The method of claim 24, wherein said nonbeneficial bacteria is selected from the group consisting of *bacteroides*, *clostridia*, coliforms, and sulphate reducing bacteria.

26. (previously presented) The composition according to claim 1 further comprising glutamine.